Steps to Increase Petroleum Production

416. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently taken any steps to increase the petroleum production; if so, the details thereof;

(b) if so, the results achieved;

(c) what was the petroleum production during the last two years and so far during the current year; and

(d) if the production has not gone up, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) and (b) Various steps recently taken to increase indigenous production of crude oil are—

(i) Announcement of the New Exploration Licensing Policy to boost investment in the exploration of hydrocarbons in the country.

(ii) Rectificatory measures for Bombay High and Neelam Oil Fields through aggressive workover job, redistribution of water injection etc.

(iii) 3-D seismic survey for better reservoir delineation.

(iv) Implementation of new scheme for development of Heera Oil Field.

(v) Enhancing exploration of hydrocarbons and reserves through seismic surveys, deep water exploration and exploration in frontier areas.

(vi) Application and optimisation of artificial lift operations.

(vii) Augmentation of power supply in the North Eastern region through installation of gas turbines.

(viii) Drilling of ERD wells and horizontal wells, scale removal treatment jobs and long drift side tracking of wells.

As a result of the various measures taken, the declining trend in crude oil production is expected to be arrested during 1997-98.

(c) The crude oil production during the last two years and during the current year is as under:—

Figs. in MMT)

1995-96	35.147
1996-97	32.88
1997-98	8.401 (April—June 1997)

(d) The crude oil production during April—June, 1997 at 8.4 MMT was 2.8% higher than the production of 8.172 MMT attained during the corresponding period of the previous year.

New Guidelines for Selection of Dealers and Distributors for Petroleum

417. SHRI AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have introduced new policy guidelines for selection of dealers and distributors for petroleum products;

(b) if so, what are the salient features thereof; and

(c) what are the categories, allowed reservation in dealerships and distributorship for petroleum products with details of percentage for each category?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Salient features of the new policy guidelines are given in the enclosed statement. *(See below)*

(c) Reservation for different sections of the Society effective from marketing plan 1996—98 onwards will be as under:

(i) Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes (SC/ST)— 25%